

Message Text

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FOR ICAO: US REP

FOLLOWING GENEVA 9968 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DEC 16; REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, ITU
SUBJ: ITU: AERONAUTICAL WARC: BUTLER VIEWS

REF: GENEVA 9926

1. DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL BUTLER CALLED MISSION SOLICITING
U.S. VIEWS ON POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONING 1978 AERONAUTICAL
WARC. BUTLER ADVISED THAT AS USG AWARE, HE IS STRONGLY
OPPOSED TO POSTPONEMENT OF THIS CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH HE
IS AWARE THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF IFRB ARE PUSHING IDEA OF
POSTPONEMENT TO 1979 WARC. BUTLER EMPHASIZED IT WOULD BE
A "GREAT MISTAKE" TO POSTPONE CONFERENCE, NOTING, AMONG
OTHER REASONS, THAT ABOUT 80 OF MOST INTERESTED ITU MEMBERS
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WOULD BE PRESENT AT SEPARATE AERO-WARC WHILE VIRTUALLY ALL
OF 152 ITU MEMBERS WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT 1979 WARC.

2. MISSION INFORMED BUTLER THAT U.S. SHARED HIS VIEW AND
MISSION HAD RECOMMENDED THAT U.S. START CONSULTING SYMPATHETIC
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WELL IN ADVANCE OF COUNCIL

MEETING IN MAY, PERHAPS BEGINNING AT BROADCASTING SATELLITE CONFERENCE. BUTLER CAUTIONED AGAINST DOING THIS AT 1977 WARC SINCE HE FEARED THAT IF 1978 WARC WERE MUCH DISCUSSED IN CORRIDORS, IT MIGHT TRIGGER SOME UNDESIRABLE ACTION AT UPCOMING CONFERENCE.

3. BUTLER ALSO ADVISED THAT UK, AUSTRALIA AND USSR OPPOSED ANY CHANGE IN SCHEDULING OF AERO-WARC AND SCANDINAVIANS STRONGLY SUPPORTED POSTPONEMENT. HE ADDED THAT ICAO PREPARATIONS, HOWEVER, SEEMED TO HIM TO BE LAGGING AND IT WAS UP TO INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS TO PUSH ICAO TO MOVE FASTER IN COMPLETING ITS PART OF THE WORK. HE ALSO HOPED THAT MAJOR POWERS WERE GOING INTO THIS CONFERENCE PREPARED TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS (UNSPECIFIED) AND NOT BE SADDLED WITH RIGID NEGOTIATING POSITIONS. CATTO UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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